



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RP/3615  
3657

Applicant: SORENSEN ET AL. Examiner: UNKNOWN  
Serial No.: 09/172,556 Group Art Unit: 3615  
Filed: OCTOBER 14, 1998 Docket: 424.83US11  
Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR VENDING PRODUCTS

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this Transmittal Letter and the paper, as described herein, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on February 18, 2000.

By: *Kate Simants*  
KATE SIMANTS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- ☒ Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- ☒ Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449
- ☒ Return postcard

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Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
3100 Norwest Center, Minneapolis, MN 55402  
(612) 332-5300

By: *Mara E. Liepa*

Name: Mara E. Liepa  
Reg. No.: 40,066  
MEL:PSTkls

S/N 09/172,556

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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By: *Kate Simants*  
*KATE SIMANTS*

*#0  
Supp IDs  
3-6-00  
VW*

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b))

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits. Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d), a copy of each document or other information listed is not provided because it was previously cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in parent application, U.S. Serial No. 08/949,366 filed on October 14, 1997.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not

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represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,  
MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
3100 Norwest Center  
90 South Seventh Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55402-4131  
(612) 332-5300

Date: 18 February 2000

Mara E. Liepa  
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